



Patent  
Attorney's Docket No. 033311-006

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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of )  
J. Thomas NGO et al ) Group Art Unit: 2171  
Application No.: <sup>10</sup>09/059,233 ) Examiner: Unassigned  
Filed: January 31, 2002 ) Confirmation No.: 6547  
For: DATA REPLICATION BASED )  
UPON A NON-DESTRUCTIVE )  
DATA MODEL )

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, kindly amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

~~Cancel claims 3, 4, 111 and 112.~~

~~Kindly amend claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 13, 24, 31, 67, 77, 84, 87, 94, 97, 109, 113 and 114 as follows:~~

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1. (Amended) A method for replicating data at multiple devices, comprising the steps of:
- representing the history of a data object at each of said devices by means of a graph of atoms in a store, where said graph includes at least one parent atom of a first type that contains information pertaining to an operation performed on the data object and at least two descendant atoms of said first type;